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COUNTRY USSR

SECRET

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SUBJECT Organization of the Ministry of Armaments

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NO. OF ENCLS. 1
(LISTED BELOW) (A)SUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Ministry of Armaments was subordinate to the USSR Council of Ministers and was located on Mayakovo'sgo Street in Moscow. This ministry was in charge of the production of weapons, equipment and ammunition for the USSR Armed Forces; it had under its administration all plants, factories and workshops manufacturing any armaments or ammunition, regardless whether this production represented the main or the secondary occupation of such plants. As far as I know, there were very few plants in the Soviet Union which were strictly military plants, and since the tendency was to keep the production of war materials as secret as possible, it was customary to assign some peacetime production line to any plants manufacturing armaments. All such plants, even though they were concerned with the production of peace time goods, were put under the administration of the Ministry of Armaments. Each plant working for the Ministry of Armaments was assigned a number which was used in official correspondence, e.g. Kirov Plant 304; Plant 707.

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2. The USSR Minister of Armaments was Hero of the Socialist Labor, Brigadier General, Artillery-Technical Branch (Inzhinerno-Artilleriyskiy Sluzhby), Karasov. The Minister had three deputies. One of them was Brigadier General Nevilov, appointed in April 1949 as Chief of the Scientific Research Institute No 20, in Kuntsevo (5544N-3726E). I don't know the names of the other two deputies.
3. The actual organization of the Ministry of Armaments was as follows: [See Enclosure (A)]
 - (a) The Main Administration of Armaments (Glavnoye Upravleniye Vooruzheniya)
 - (b) The Main Administration of Ammunition (Glavnoye Upravleniye Boyepripasov)
 - (c) The Main Administration of Supplies (Glavnoye Upravleniye Snabzheniya)
 - (d) The Main Administration of Training (Glavnoye Upravleniye Uchebnykh Zavedeniy)
 - (e) The Main Administration of Personnel (Glavnoye Upravleniye Kadrov Vooruzheniya)
 - (f) Secret Document Section (Spetsial'nyy Otdel)

Each of these main administrations was headed by a main director, eg Main Director of Armaments, Main Director of Ammunition.

4. The Main Administration of Armaments was in charge of the production of all weapons and was broken down into the following sections: artillery, mortar, rocket and small arms. It is of interest to note that the tanks and self-propelled guns production was not subordinated to the Ministry of Armaments. I do not know whether this was the task of the Ministry for the Heavy Industry, or the Ministry of Transportation.
5. The Main Administration of Ammunition was in charge of ammunition production. It had the following breakdown: artillery, mortar, rocket ammunition section; small arms ammunition section; explosives section; optical equipment section. Both of these main administrations were producing ones, and realized production through governmental orders (goszakaz) distributed directly to plants and factories under their administration. Such orders were forwarded to the respective plants' secret document sections (spetsotdel), which in turn forward them to the workshops concerned. All "Goszakaz's" contained specification requirements with respect to raw materials and semi-finished products to be used in the fulfillment of respective orders; the raw materials usually were of the highest quality.

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6. The Main Administration of Supplies was in charge of procurement of raw materials, semi-finished products and materials for all industries under the administration of the Ministry of Armaments. Each plant belonging to the Ministry of Armaments also had a raw materials section within the plant's administration.
7. The Main Administration of Training was in charge of technical training of personnel assigned to industries working for the Ministry of Armaments. It had the following breakdown:
- (a) Armaments Industrial Academy. This was actually an industrial college on a university level established in February 1948 for advanced technical education and training of high ranking technical and administrative personnel of plants belonging to the Ministry of Armaments. [redacted]
 - (b) Scientific Research Institute Section (Nauchno-Issledovatel'skiy Institut-NII). Within several important plants working for the Ministry of Armaments, scientific research institutes were established for the purpose of conducting research and tests on weapons and equipment manufactured by the respective plants. There were not many such institutes, however I know of NII-20 attached to plant 304 in Kuntsevo, and NII-30 attached to an unidentified plant in Podol'sk (5527N-3728E). Both of these institutes had the following T/O: Director who was a highly qualified scientist or expert in the technical field of the institute; a Chief Engineer; several engineers; several technicians; laboratory personnel; clerical personnel. The total strength was about 30-50 men.
 - (c) Plant Technical School Section. Many plants under the administration of the Ministry of Armaments had their own technical schools for training the plants' skilled workers, and foremen, thus giving them an opportunity for further advancement. The course usually lasted two years and during this time the students were either taken completely off production, in which case they retained their normal wages, or were given easy jobs within the plant, leaving them sufficient time for school attendance and studies.
 - (d) Plant Evening Technical School Section. Almost all plants within the Ministry of Armaments maintained evening technical schools, attended by newly recruited unskilled workers. The evening classes usually were held three to four hours each work day. A normal course for an evening school lasted six to 12 months.
8. The Main Administration of Personnel was in charge of procurement, promotion and transfer of the plant's higher administrative and technical personnel, eg plant directors, chief engineers, engineers, shop supervisors, constructors and technicians. Each plant belonging to the Ministry of Armaments also had a personnel section as a part of the plant administration.

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9. The Secret Document Section was in charge of all classified correspondence and documents within the Ministry. These sections exist in every plant administered by the Ministry of Armaments; the chiefs of these sections usually were MGB officials; at the same time, they were in charge of both the security of the plants and the political reliability of all personnel.

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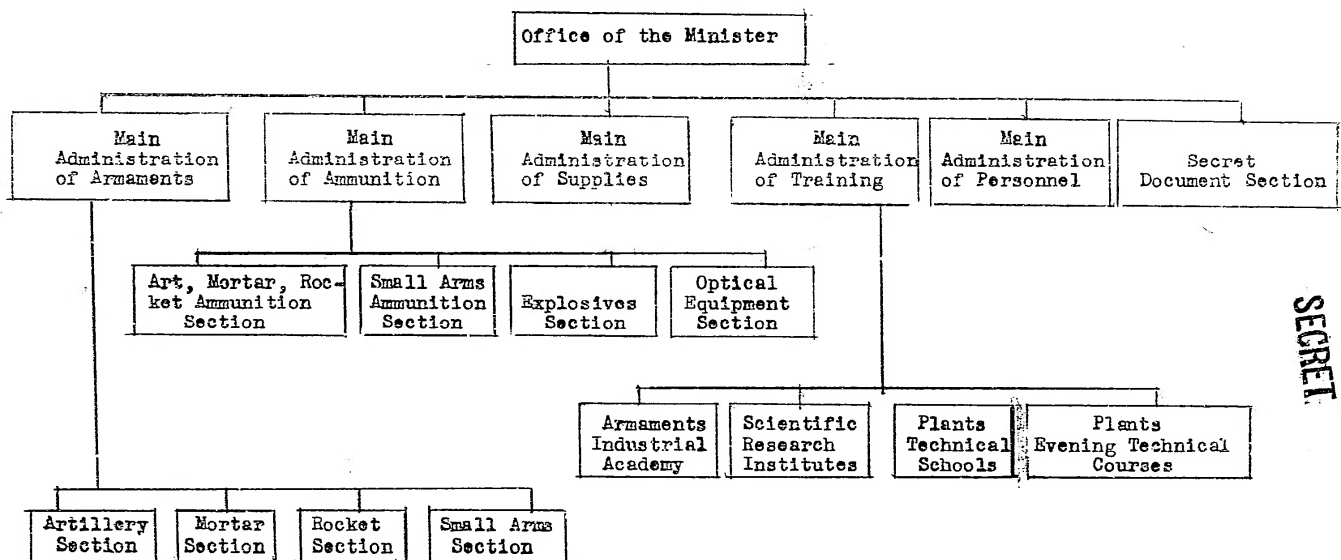
ENCLOSURE (A): Organization of the Ministry of Armaments

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Organization of the Ministry of Armaments



ENCLOSURE (A)

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